

# The Semi-Weekly Messenger

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## AN EARNEST PLEA

For Freedom for the Philippines by Senator Bacon.

## OPPOSITION TO ANNEXATION

Based Upon Policy and Principle--The Same Treatment Should be Given the Philippines as the Cubans--Annexation Means Making Them Citizens or Vassals--The Spanish War Was Not to Right Their Wrongs--The Evils to Arise From Acquiring Distant Territory Pointed Out. The Situation Critical.

### SENATE.

Washington, January 18.—The feature of today's session in the senate was a speech delivered by Senator Bacon, democrat, of Georgia, in support of his resolutions declaring that the United States would not assume sovereignty over the Philippine islands. Senator Bacon is one of the orators of the senate and as he gave himself free rein, not confining himself to notes, he spoke strongly and effectively. His peroration, in which he pictured the horrors of some of England's methods of controlling her colonial subjects was a beautiful and forceful bit of word painting. Senator Bacon said in part: "Of all the great powers of the earth, the government of the United States is the only one that contends for the right, in all people, of self-government. When they abandon in practice this principle, when they impose their dominion on an unwilling people, in the majestic march of free institutions, the hand upon the great dial of the clock of the world would have been set back an hundred years."

"It is not to be believed that the government of the United States will, with full appreciation of the nature of the consequence of the act, thus violate the principle of the right of self-government. It is incredible, nay, impossible that the liberty-loving people of these United States will consent that by power of arms the dominion of this government shall be enforced upon a people who have owed us no allegiance—who are struggling to be free. There is not a civil official of the government who will admit that he favors such an act. There is not a public man in the country who will admit that he favors the enslavement of a people. There is not a senator who would not repel the charge if made against him. And yet there are many who are advocating a course, the inevitable consequence of which, if successfully pursued is to accomplish the enslavement of the people of the Philippine islands."

He quoted from the speech of Senator Foraker the statement that it was not the purpose to hold the Philippines permanently and said:

"I am especially glad to have the assurance of the distinguished senator that by his own knowledge the position thus stated by him is the position of the president of the United States. If that position can be assured as the one which this government will take and adhere to, there will be little difference or contention between us. The resolutions which I have introduced and the adoption of which I am now advocating agree substantially with the position announced by the senator from Ohio. What I desire, however, is that there shall be now an avowal of this position by the law-making power of this government in a joint resolution of congress approved by the president."

"When we declared war against Spain we also declared that we did not go to war for our aggrandizement or for the acquisition of territory. We said that on the contrary we went to war to make good to the people of Cuba their title to independence and freedom which all recognized that as a people they had already won, and to secure for them the establishment of a stable government. The war has passed, and in a way almost miraculous we were freed from great sacrifice. There has been no foreign intervention and there will be none. Not only has there been no European interference as to Cuba, but it is a recognized and conceded fact that we may without hindrance from European governments work our own will with the Philippine islands."

"Now what I wish to accomplish by these resolutions is that the United States shall in this hour of victory—in this hour of undisputed physical power, make substantially the same declaration relative to the Philippines that they have made relative to Cuba."

Senator Bacon declared there was no difference in the rights of the Cubans and the Philippines and they should all be considered equal under the resolution adopted by congress, although the Philippines were not at the time of the declaration of war. He said our obligations to the Philippines rested upon the alliance of the Americans with the Philippines during the war and added: "But that alliance and co-operation did put us under a strong moral obligation not to make a peace with Spain which did not include in its terms the sundering of the bonds which bound to her the Philippine islands. That obligation did not grow out of the fact alone that the Philippines were in rebellion to Spain, because we did not de-

clare war to correct all the wrongs inflicted by Spain on her colonies. We declared war only on account of Cuba, and our obligations to the Philippines grew solely out of the accident of war, which threw us into co-operation and alliance with these insurgents against the dominion of Spain."

"Again, we hear frequent and earnest assertions that it is our duty to see to it that European nations do not appropriate the Philippine islands. Well, sir, I do not wish to see these islands become the prey of land grabbing nations of Europe. I wish and hope to see the inhabitants of the Philippines a free and independent nation. They have the territory and the population sufficient for nationality and they have shown their readiness to fight for their freedom. I hope that by negotiations or otherwise it may be arranged and agreed among the leading nations that they may remain a free nation. I am willing that the United States shall through peaceful measures endeavor to accomplish this result. But I am not willing that the United States shall go to war to protect the Philippine islands from being despoiled and appropriated by one or more European nations. No Asiatic community is the ward of the United States, and to no Asiatic community do the United States owe the obligation of guardianship. I am not indifferent to the welfare of such communities, but I am unwilling that the treasure of this government shall be consumed and the blood of the American youth be poured out for their protection. We have nobler uses, both for the treasure and the young manhood of this country."

"I am most deeply impressed with the importance of the prompt announcement of this government of the declaration contained in these resolutions that the United States do not intend to establish its dominion over the Philippine islands. One good result from such a declaration will, in my opinion, be the prompt conclusion of all questions growing out of the war with Spain. Another and most important result will be immediate relief from the most embarrassing and threatening situation in the Philippine islands. It is useless for us to shut our eyes to the fact that the American and Philippine armies are fronting each other with danger of collision. Why is this? It is because the Philippines, who fought Spain for their freedom, do not intend to become the vassals of the United States, and while senators announce on the floor that there is no intention to impose this government upon an unwilling people, there are other utterances which lead the Philippines to a contrary conclusion. In consequence, there is danger of bloodshed between the Americans and the Philippine armies. If this declaration is promptly and authoritatively made by this government, the apprehension will be relieved, and there will be no distrust of the American army and thought of hostility to it. Unless we make this declaration, an accident, a trifle, may precipitate that shot at any hour. Every report we receive shows that the Philippines will not surrender. If there should come a collision; if there should be battle between the Americans and Philippines, it will be a fearful shock for us to realize that a war undertaken for the liberation of Cuba has been converted into one to subjugate the Philippines."

Senator Bacon then entered upon an argument against the annexation of distant territory with a dense population of an alien and inferior race. He said: "If annexed this territory must either be in the end admitted as states in the union, with their people as citizens entitled to equal rights and power with the citizens of other states, or the territory must be held as colonies with their people as subjects and vassals of the United States. It is impossible that our people should ever consent that these Asiatic communities should be admitted as states into the union, clothed with the power to assist in making laws for Americans."

"What is the result if these islands are acquired and held as colonies. The logic of the situation will be to acquire more Asiatic territory, and after that reach out for still more. There is no reason for the acquisition of the Philippines which will not apply to the acquisition of other parts of Asia, each acquisition furnishing a reason why other parts still beyond should be acquired. Under this policy our government will abandon its peaceful career and reach out to the ends of the earth for empire and power that it may, with a strong arm, dominate and rule over distant lands and peoples of every race, condition and color. This reaching out for empire will inevitably lead to wars, not such wars as the little one with its trifling sacrifices through

which we have just passed, but great wars with all their sacrifices. It means vast armies, composed in large part of our young men, ready on a day's notice to cope in bloody conflict with the great military powers of the earth. England is especially eager that the United States shall seize the Philippines. Why? Is it because she is so anxious to witness the further expansion and aggrandizement of the power of the United States? Or is it because she sees ahead of her a gigantic world's war over the partition of China, in which she wishes that the United States shall be compelled to take part and in which she wishes and hopes that they may be her ally?"

Senator Bacon urged the point that the Philippine islands, so far from being an element of strength, would from their distance necessarily be the weakest point if it became a part of the United States; that in case of war our enemy would strike us there just as we struck Spain there, because it was her weakest point.

He concluded by urging that the American people had enough to do in developing their own country, which, exclusive of Alaska was ample for a population of 300,000,000 and in developing our own resources there was enough to task the energies and inspire the hopes of our people for centuries to come.

Following Senator Bacon's speech the Nicaragua canal bill was taken up and remained under discussion until 6 o'clock. The Caffery substitute, which was pending, was laid on the table by a vote of 32 to 22. Amendment after amendment was voted down, and until almost the last minute it seemed likely that a vote on the measure would be reached this evening; but just as a final vote was about to be called for Senator Allison, republican, of Iowa, exploded a bomb under the bill by offering an amendment providing that the secretary of the treasury should issue bonds to raise money with which to construct the canal.

The friends of the measure then consented to an adjournment and at 6 o'clock the senate adjourned.

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The committee on interstate and foreign commerce had the right of way in the house today and succeeded in passing quite a number of bills of minor importance, most of which authorized the construction of light houses, fog signals, etc. One authorized the construction and equipment of a light vessel with a fog signal for station at the tail of Horseshoe shoals in Chesapeake bay, the limit of cost is to be \$20,000.

The bill to grant the Pacific Cable Company a subsidy of \$100,000 a year for twenty years for the construction and operation of a cable was called up and a very spirited debate, which consumed the remainder of the day, followed. The opposition was headed by Mr. Corliss, republican, of Michigan, who advocated the construction of a government cable. No conclusion was reached at the hour of adjournment and as the special order under which the house was operating today expired with the adjournment, and as objection was made fixing another day for its consideration it goes over indefinitely until the committee can get another day or until a special order is adopted.

The house at 5:15 o'clock p. m. adjourned.

### Senator Cockrell for President

Kansas City, Mo., January 18.—In an editorial tomorrow, The Kansas City Times, which has been a staunch supporter of William Jennings Bryan, will urge the candidacy of United States Senator Francis Marion Cockrell for the democratic presidential nomination in 1900. Senator Cockrell, whom the people of Missouri have just elected to his sixth term in the United States senate, will be put forward as "an old fashioned democrat, who stood for what the Chicago platform contains long before that platform was promulgated, a democrat of experience in national affairs, whose record has stood the test of time, who knows the plain people and against whom the charge of demagoguery has never been brought; who comes from the west and the south, but whose services for twenty-four years have been given to the whole people of the United States."

### A Big Fire in New York

New York, January 18.—The great six story store of A. J. Cammeyer, at 310 to 318, Sixth avenue, occupying the greater part of the block between Nineteenth and Twentieth streets, was almost burned out tonight. Mr. Cammeyer said the loss to the building and contents would be about \$750,000. He is fully insured and believed that the other tenants were also.

### La Grippe Successfully Treated

"I have just recovered from the second attack of la grippe this year," says Mr. Jas. A. Jones, publisher of the Leader, Mexico, Texas. "In the latter case I used Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, and I think with considerable success, only being in bed a little over two days against ten days for the former attack. The second attack I am satisfied would have been equally as bad as the first but for the use of this remedy as I had to go to bed in about six hours after being 'struck' with it, while in the first case I was able to attend to business about two days before getting 'down.' For sale by R. R. Bellamy."

**Close Vote in West Virginia Legislature**  
Charleston, W. Va., January 18.—The democratic members of the legislature met tonight in secret caucus and nominated John T. McGraw, of Grafton, for the United States senate. Only one ballot was taken. The caucus was harmonious. The democrats have forty-eight votes on joint ballot and the republicans forty-nine.

## UNFAVORABLE REPORT

On Repeal of Fayetteville Dispensary.

## THE MATTER ARGUED

By Representatives of Both Sides Before the Legislative Committee--Decision of the Committee--An Address by Dancy, White and Other Negroes to the Negroes of the State--An Effort to Secure Co-operative Emigration Defeated by a Close Vote

(Special to The Messenger.)

Raleigh, N. C., January 18.—There was a large assemblage in the old state library this afternoon and again tonight to hear argument for and against the bill to abolish the dispensary at Fayetteville. The following are here to urge the legislature not to repeal the bill: Dr. J. W. McNeill, chairman of delegation; J. A. Oates, D. T. Oates, Rev. C. A. G. Thomas, David J. Bruce, W. H. Downing, J. Walter Smith, E. J. House, Q. K. Nimocks, ex-Senator McLanghin, John McPherson, Rev. T. H. Leavitt, John Lamb. This delegation brought here petitions signed by 1,118 white men and 60 women. The committee gave a full hearing. Representative Ray, of Cumberland, first spoke, favoring unconditional repeal of the law establishing the dispensary. Representative Robinson followed him favoring submission to people of the question of abolition or maintenance. Ray said, later, he was willing to submit the question to the voters of Cumberland county. Many arguments were made pro and con. Hon. George M. Rose spoke as counsel for those who desire the dispensary abolished.

The committee at the night session heard argument by Messrs. Rose, E. J. Hale, Arthur B. Williams and Representative Ray in favor of allowing the people of the county to vote as to whether the dispensary shall remain or not. Dr. McNeill, J. M. Lamb, Evangelist Leavitt and D. S. Bruce spoke in opposition to the bill. It was said by some of the opponents of the bill that they were willing to submit the question to the white voters, but Rose said this was apart from the question. The committee at 10:30 o'clock declared the hearing closed, and at 11 o'clock agreed to report the bill unfavorably. It is Ray's bill, which thus was turned down.

The legislative joint committee on election laws practically decides that it will adopt the election law of 1893, with some modifications. The senate judiciary committee will report favorably the bill which legalizes the reorganization of the South Carolina and Georgia Extension railway and all other roads sold under foreclosure proceedings prior to 1897. Tonight White and Dancy signed an address to the negroes of North Carolina. Included in this is a memorial to the legislature, asking it not to pass any laws, the effect of which would be to "blunt our aspirations, ruin our manhood and lessen our usefulness as citizens, but guarantee us an equal chance with other men to work out our destiny, and we ask you to continue your friendly aid toward us, which has so marked the good relations existing between the two races in our state in the past. We are not insensible, but acutely grateful to our white neighbors in North Carolina for the liberal educational facilities so nobly inaugurated in our behalf." A committee of nine was appointed to present the memorial. The address urges the negroes not to be hasty in seeking any changes in their present surroundings and plans, but to quietly and industriously fulfill all contracts with landlords and otherwise, and where necessary, enter into new ones for the current year.

Today what was termed a negro state council, called by Congressman George H. White and others, was held here at one of the negro churches. White presided and Collector of Customs John C. Dancy, of Wilmington, was secretary. Eighty-nine persons were present as delegates principally from eastern counties. An effort was made by White and some others to have a resolution adopted advising the negroes to emigrate in case the democrats "made their stay in North Carolina intolerable," and agreeing that each would aid the others in so emigrating. Upon refusal to modify these resolutions, two leading negroes, Rev. R. H. W. Leak and Dr. S. A. Scruggs, left the convention, giving notice that they would resort to the newspapers to state the true facts in this case. This evening the convention agreed to strike out this part of the resolutions, and the vote on striking out was 42 to 37.

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## IN THE LEGISLATURE

Undoing Evils of Fusion Legislation.

## MANY BILLS PROPOSED.

For Amendment of Present Laws--A Resolution Looking to Impeachment of Judge Norwood--Special Committees on Various Investigations Appointed--A Bill to Provide Salaries for Solicitors--Justices Not to Have Jurisdiction of Concealed Weapon Cases.

(Special to The Messenger.)

### SENATE.

The senate met at 10 o'clock. It was ordered that 200 copies of the bill codifying the insane laws of North Carolina and submitted by Dr. P. L. Murphy, of Morganton, be printed, so that an intelligent consideration can be given the bill, which is lengthy and important.

After a long debate \$202 was allowed as election contest expenses before the senate by A. Cannon, who lost the seat from the Thirty-Fourth district.

The number of senate pages was reduced from ten to six.

Bills were introduced as follows: By Senator Bryan, to incorporate New Bern. By Senator Williams, to make a fence of lower Little river, Cumberland county. To provide primary elections for political parties. By Senator Robinson, to add new members to the board of county commissioners of Sampson. To allow surety companies to become surety for guardians, executors (practically re-enacting the old democratic law). To establish a state veterinary association.

Senators Lindsey and Brown were appointed part of the joint committee to investigate the penitentiary and Senators Osborne and James to examine the evidence submitted as to the dismissal of S. Otho and J. W. Wilson from the railroad commission.

The Hertford county bill came up and after a warm debate passed.

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The house met at 10 o'clock. Mr. Curtis, of Buncombe, introduced a resolution, instructing the judiciary committee to enquire and report whether W. L. Norwood, who claims to be judge of the Twelfth district, should not be impeached for drunkenness and for holding an office to which he is not entitled. It declares he exercises the judicial functions whenever opportunity offers and the right to make orders as superior court judge at chambers.

Bills were introduced as follows: To allow administrators and executors of trustees in mortgages to make deeds to purchasers at sales under foreclosure. To fix salaries of solicitors and require their fees to be turned in to the state treasurer. To have elementary principles of agriculture taught in public schools. To amend the law regarding proving titles out of the state. To provide for giving security in criminal actions. To release the tax on livery stables and \$50 taxes on manufacturers. By Mr. Johnson, of Sampson, to prevent the removal of certain cases to federal courts.

The bill to give magistrates final jurisdiction in cases for carrying concealed weapons came up with an unfavorable report, and provoked considerable debate. It was finally tabled.

The speaker announced as the house committee to investigate the penitentiary: Messrs. Gattis, Willard and Patterson of Robeson.

The bill passed, allowing Fayetteville to receive 25 per cent. of last year's taxes in full settlement (that town being behind one year in taxes).

Mr. Robinson, of Cumberland, presented a petition signed by 1,172 citizens of Cumberland, protesting against repealing the dispensary law.

The bill to repeal the act making two years abandonment ground for divorce was tabled; as was also the bill to prohibit the charging of over 6 per cent. on crop liens by merchants.

The bill passed reducing the price of supreme court reports to \$1.50.

The speaker announced Messrs. Moore, of Jackson, and Fleming as added to the committee on counties, cities and towns, and Mr. Rountree to that on banks.

A resolution was adopted, raising a committee on election of state university trustees, and the speaker named Messrs. Winston, Carr, Craig, Foushee and Wall.

### THE EAGAN COURT-MARTIAL

The Order Issued--Composition of the Court--Set for Trial on the 25th Instant

Washington, January 18.—The detail for the court-martial which is to try Commissary General Charles P. Eagan on charges growing out of the statement before the war investigation commission in which he severely attacked General Miles was made public at the war department.

The court is made up of thirteen army officers of whom Major General Wesley Merritt is at the head, and a judge advocate, and it is to meet in this city on Wednesday, the 25th instant, or as soon thereafter as practicable, this qualification being necessary, because a number of the members are at distant points and will require some days to adjust their affairs and reach this city. All the officers composing the court, save one, are from the regular army, a number of whom, however, during the war accepted volunteer rank and still hold those commissions. Major General Butler is the only one who is not connected with the regular army.

Adjutant General Corbin returned early in the evening from New York and came to the war department about 8:30 o'clock. He then signed the formal order promulgating the detail for the court.

Detail for the court is: Major General Wesley Merritt, U. S. A.; Major General James F. Wade, U. S. A.; Major General Matthew C. Butler, U. S. A.; Major General Samuel B. M. Young, U. S. A.; Brigadier General Royal T. Frank, U. S. A.; Brigadier General Alexander C. McW. Pennington, U. S. A.; Brigadier General George M. Randall, U. S. A.; Brigadier General Jacob Kline, U. S. A.; Brigadier General Richard Combs, U. S. A.; Colonel Peter C. Haines, corps of engineers; Colonel George L. Gillespie, corps of engineers; Colonel Charles H. Suter, corps of engineers; Colonel Francis L. Guenther, fourth artillery; Lieutenant Colonel George B. Davis, deputy judge advocate general, judge advocate of the court.

The court is empowered to proceed with the business before it with any number of members, not less than the minimum prescribed by law.

General Corbin stated that the order for the appointment of the court-martial would be delivered to General Eagan either tonight or tomorrow morning. This, it is expected, will be done by an officer or an employee of the adjutant general's office. Its receipt and acknowledgement by the commissary general will be tantamount to the relief of that officer from his present duties and he will turn over its affairs either to some one designated to act by the secretary of war or to the officer next in charge of the department.

If the course indicated by an officer of the adjutant general's office tonight is followed, the probability is that General Eagan will not be placed under actual arrest and deprived of any of his liberties pending the trial, but will be subject only to constructive and technical arrest during that time. In the case of officers of high rank this is occasionally but not often done, and this course does not in any way invalidate the trial or findings of the court. General Eagan will be expected to remain away from his office and make himself inconspicuous until his appearance before the court to answer the charges, when he will be placed under constructive arrest and remain so during its proceedings. Were the defendant a younger officer and of less obnoxious character and in the field with his regiment, the usual course of placing him under arrest and depriving him of his sword would no doubt be followed.

Adjutant General Corbin refused tonight to make any statement regarding the form of the charges and specifications to be brought against General Eagan, or to say when they would be published.

General Eagan, after the issuance of the formal order for the court, tonight declined to make any statement in connection with his case.

### TROOPS FOR CUBA

More Soldiers to Sail For Havana. The Panama to Go to Manila

Savannah, Ga., January 18.—The transport Minnewaska sailed at 11 o'clock tonight for Matanzas with the Third Kentucky regiment. The Michigan will sail Friday for Havana with four batteries of the Second United States artillery, including Grimes' battery, which will reach here tomorrow from Huntsville. The battery will leave its San Juan guns in Savannah, taking the new smokeless powder guns which are waiting for it.

Information has been received by the quartermaster's office here that the Panama, which sailed for Matanzas last Sunday, will not return to Savannah, but will go from Matanzas to Manila and will lay the Philippine cable. After that she will be used as a despatch boat by General Otis.

### Senators Elected Yesterday

Washington, January 18.—The following United States senators were formally declared elected today at joint sessions of the legislatures of their respective states: Connecticut, Joseph R. Hawley; Indiana, Albert J. Beveridge; Maine, Eugene Hale; Massachusetts, Henry Cabot Lodge; Michigan, Julius C. Burrows; Minnesota, Cushman K. Davis; Missouri, Frances M. Cockrell; New York, Chauncey M. Depew.

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